

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 849

By Carr D

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Heather Burkhart on her selection as Regional Middle Grades Teacher of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those outstanding educators who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Heather Burkhart is one such estimable educator who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Burkhart was recently selected as the Regional Middle Grades Teacher of the Year by a panel of judges who reviewed all candidates submitted from the East Center of Regional Excellence, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher, as it recognizes the positive influence she has on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, Heather Burkhart's love of teaching began as a counselor for Covenant Health running intervention programs for at-risk youth; that experience led her to enroll in East Tennessee State University's Cohort Program and earn a graduate degree in teaching; and

WHEREAS, in her first teaching position as a math interventionist, Ms. Burkhart found creative and effective ways to help students struggling with mathematics; and

WHEREAS, Heather Burkhart is currently a fifth and sixth grade math teacher at Sevier County School System's Pigeon Forge Middle School, where she uses differential instruction to teach all of her students according to their needs and abilities; and

WHEREAS, Heather Burkhart is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Burkhart truly serves as an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, Heather Burkhart epitomizes the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Heather Burkhart on being chosen as Regional Middle Grades Teacher of the Year, commend her exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.